Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

22 February 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 20, 2007

Conditions Report

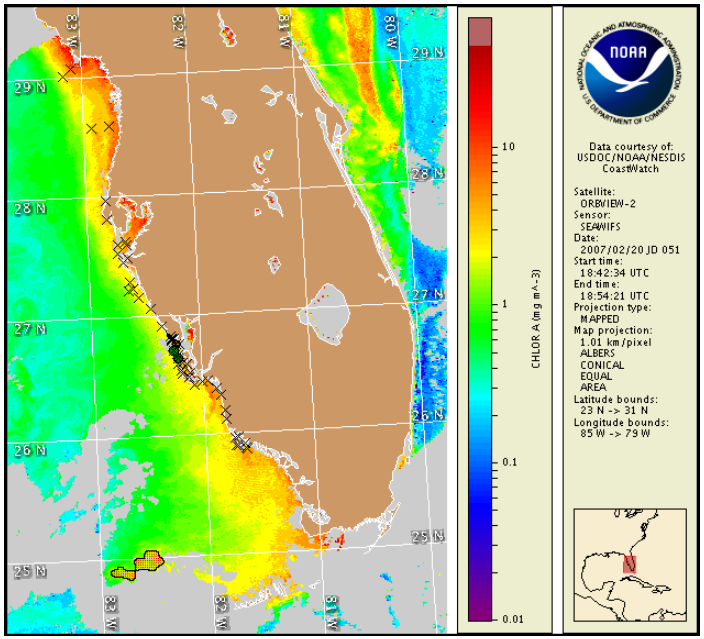
A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches from southern Charlotte to northern Lee County, and the Lower Keys in Monroe County. Patchy very low impacts are possible for bayside regions of northern Lee County through Sunday. Patchy very low impacts are possible Sunday for the ocean side of the Lower Keys. No other impacts are expected through Sunday.

Analysis

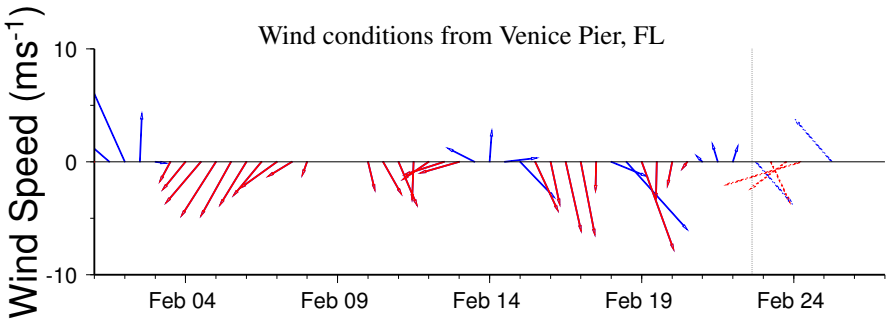
The harmful algal bloom continues to dissipate along the coast of Southwest Florida. Chlorophyll does remain elevated offshore Bonita Beach and Vanderbilt Beach in southern Lee and northern Collier County, and south of Cape Romano. The feature offshore Northern Collier County extends offshore to 26°8.4'N 82°0.2'W, with a maximum chlorophyll concentration of approximately 8μg/L at 26°20.8'N 81°56.5'W. The feature south of Cape Romano extends to 25°38.4'N 81°38.9'W with a maximum chlorophyll concentration of approximately 4μg/L at 25°47.8'N 81°39.5'W. These features will continue to be monitored via satellite imagery. Sampling of these features is recommended. Impacts at the shore are not expected through Sunday. Minimal transport is expected.

The harmful algal blooms persist northwest of the Marquesas Keys and south of the Lower Keys. Strong southerly winds may increase potential for impacts on the ocean side of the Lower Keys. Chlorophyll remains elevated (4-5μg/L) east of Big Pine Key. Sampling is recommended.

- Allen and Fisher



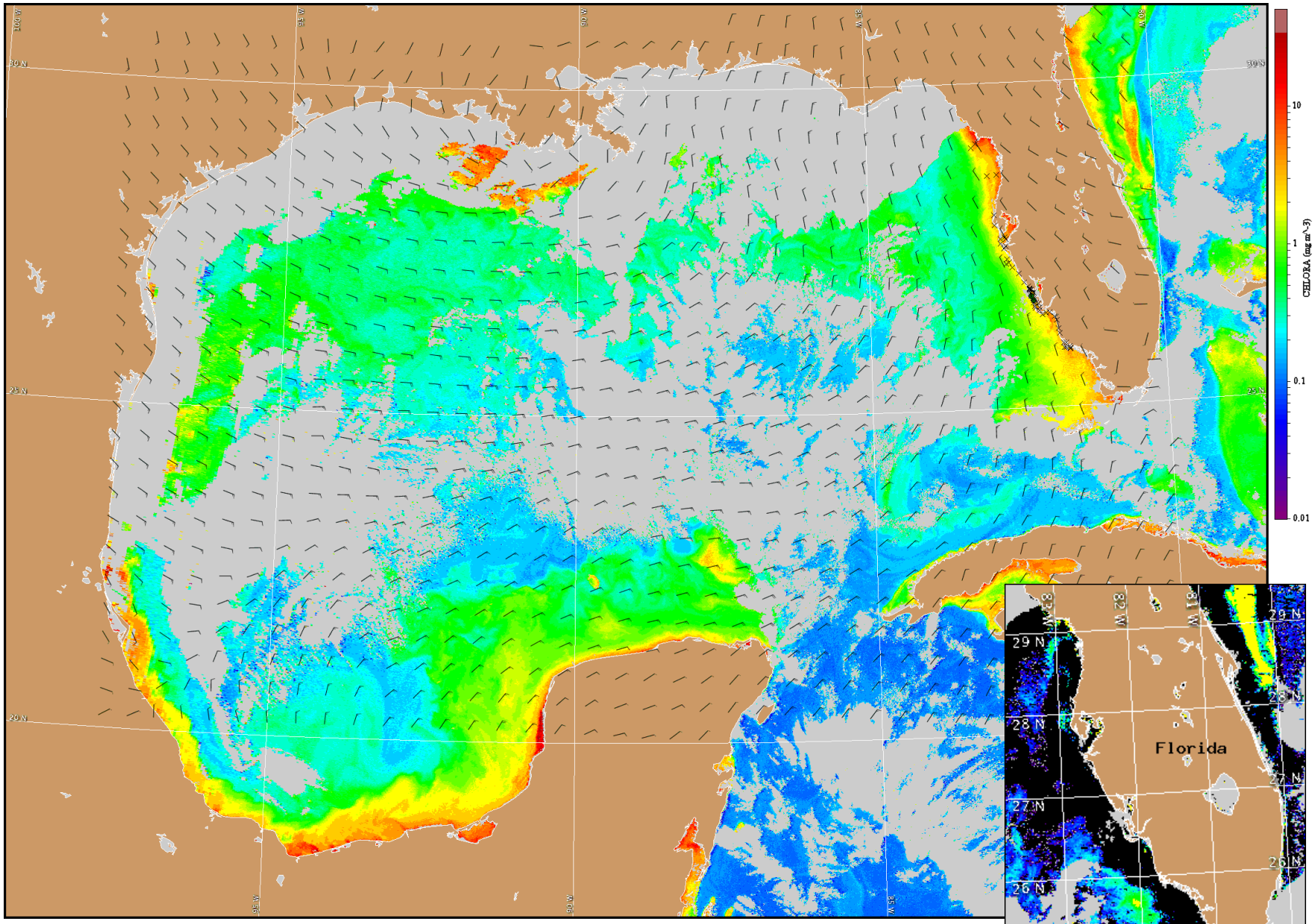
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).Cell concentration sampling data from February 12-20 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the the HABFS bulletin guide: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



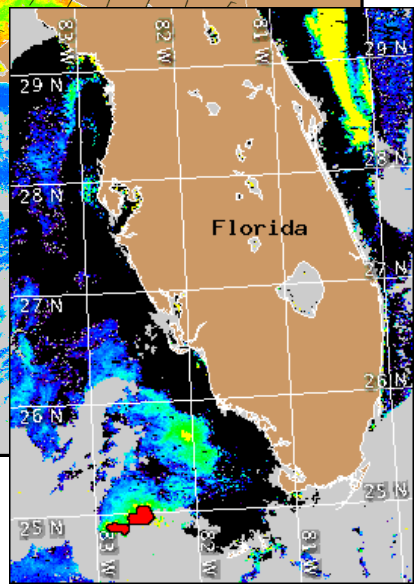
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Northerly winds today increasing to 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s). Northeasterly winds tomorrow increasing to 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) and clocking to the southeast by Saturday. Southerly winds Sunday at 15 knots (8 m/s).

FL Keys: Northerly winds today at 10 knots (5 m/s) becoming northeasterly tonight through Friday and increasing to 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s). Easterly winds Saturday at 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) becoming southeast to south by Sunday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 23, 2007 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from February 12-20 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the the HABFS bulletin guide: http://www.csc.noaa/gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Sand Key, FL